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Serial No.: 09/508874
Confirmation No.: 3542
Applicant: MAITLAND et al.
Atty. Ref.: PA-00099US

REMARKS:

REMARKS REGARDING CLAIMS AMENDMENTS:

Claims 54-59 have been canceled without prejudice as indicated above to place the application in a condition for immediate allowance.

In making the above amendment, Applicants' intention is to not narrow the scope of the protection sought by remaining claims.

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IN RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION:

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 54-59 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6405809 of Arvind D. Patel ("Patel" reference). Applicants would have it noted in the record that the Patel reference is assigned and owned by the Assignee of the present application. In view of the above overlap in claim scope applicants have canceled claims 54-59 of the present application. With this amendment the basis for this rejection are obviated.

In view of the above, Applicants request the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection and ask that the Examiner indicate the allowance of the application in the next paper from the Office.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-3082, Order No. PA-00099US.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

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